

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

(The Paragraph numbers used below were assigned by USPTO in Publication #20030007263 dated January 9, 2003; ~~Strikethru~~ means delete, Underline means Add)

[0014] Replace with the following new paragraph:

[0014] In accordance with the present invention a back-up mirror system comprised of two mirrors: a rear-view mirror located in the usual position generally in front of the driver and mounted near the center of the front windshield edge, in combination with a second mirror, the back-up mirror, located in a position generally aft of the driver's seat and ~~slightly aft of or even with a second seating row's seatback~~, whose reflective surface is generally facing towards one side of the vehicle (left-looking or right-looking).

[0022] Replace with the following new paragraph:

[0022] (f) To not substantially obstruct any of the views already available to a driver through the window at the rear of the passenger compartment while in the driver's seat of their vehicle;

[0030] Replace with the following new paragraph:

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a passenger motor vehicle having side doors starting to back up from an angled parking space without direct visibility of nearby oncoming cross-traffic which is approaching from the vehicle's passenger-side, showing a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a back-up mirror system, wherein a driver looks forward into a rear-view mirror for an image of a (right-looking) back-up mirror's image of any nearby oncoming cross-traffic.

[0032-TABLE] Replace with the following amended TABLE information:

REFERENCE NUMERALS IN DRAWINGS: 21 Vehicle with an embodiment of Back-up Mirror System 22 Driver of vehicle 21 23 Nearby oncoming cross-traffic 4 Adjacent view-blocking obstruction, e.g. a parked mini-van 5 Blocked light rays 6 Back-up Mirror (such as Saf-T-Sight(.TM.), See-Around(.TM.) back-up mirror, mark owned applied for by M. M. O'Leary) 7 light rays traveling from 23 to 22 8 A lane of cross-traffic crossing behind 21 9 Curb 10 Rear-view mirror with mounting method 11 Housing 12 Vehicle interior surface, nearly vertical 13 Mounting/fastening method 14 Ball element 15 Socket element 16 Support

[0033] Replace with the following new paragraph:

[0033] A preferred embodiment of the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 1. This figure illustrates a back-up mirror system allowing an alternative view of nearby oncoming cross-traffic approaching from the right side (passenger-side) of a backing-up vehicle. The back-up mirror system is shown in a passenger motor vehicle 21 which has a conventional right side (passenger-side), left side (driver's-side), side doors, front end, rear end, rear-bumper, passenger compartment, rear window, and nearly vertical side pillars which support conventional, non-moving side or rear windows. A driver 22 is facing forward. Vehicle 21 is equipped with a standard rear-view mirror 10 whose reflecting surface lies in a nearly vertical plane, which plane is also nearly parallel with the vehicle's rear-bumper, in which a specially-positioned back-up mirror 6 can be seen by driver 22, as can light rays 7 emanating from oncoming cross-traffic vehicle 23. Vehicle 21, parked in an angled parking space, is backing away from a curb 9. A lane of cross-traffic 8 flows behind vehicle 21, containing oncoming cross-traffic 23 approaching from the vehicle's passenger-side. Vehicle 21 is parked to the right of lane 8. Driver 22 does not have a direct view of a nearby oncoming vehicle 23 because the direct view is obstructed and blocked by an adjacent obstruction 4, a parked mini-van, parked alongside the passenger-side of vehicle 21, as indicated by blocked light rays 5 emanating from vehicle 23, since light is unable to pass through the obstruction. The rear-bumper of the parked mini-van 4 is not visible to driver 22 via back-up mirror 6 due to the opaque body materials of vehicle 21 blocking the path of rays traveling from the mini-van's rear-bumper upwards towards back-up mirror 6. The back-up mirror 6 in this embodiment is mounted against a non-door, nearly-vertical, non-movable vehicle surface inside the passenger compartment, on the driver's-side of the car, near the rear of the passenger compartment, well aft of the driver's-seat row, but well forward of the vehicle's rear-bumper. The back-up mirror 6's reflecting surface lies in a plane which is nearly vertical, and the plane is also very nearly parallel with the vehicle's sides, as shown in the encircled detail in FIG 1.

[0036] Replace the sentence at the end of this paragraph with:

In this embodiment, mirror support 16 is mounted by a suitable method 13 (pressure sensitive adhesive, screws, pop-rivets, suction cup, etc.) to a non-door, nearly vertical surface 12 inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle slightly aft of or even with a second seating row's seatback.

[0037] Add and delete the following words within the sentence, mid-paragraph, to read:

The embodiment in FIG. 1 illustrates a right-looking back-up mirror 6 mounted in a position on the inside of the passenger compartment along the driver's side of vehicle 21 by suitable method slightly aft of or even with a second seating row's seatback on the left side against a non-door, nearly-vertical, non-movable surface, well aft of the driver's-seat row, but well forward of the vehicle's rear end, enough forward so that a ray emanating from the rear-bumper of adjacent parked obstruction 4 towards the back-up mirror 6 cannot reach back-up mirror 6 due to the opaque materials of vehicle 21.

[0041] Replace with the following new paragraph:

[0041] The present invention also applies to a left-looking back-up mirror system and left-looking back-up mirror method whose back-up mirror is mounted inside the passenger compartment, well aft of the driver's-seat row, against a nearly-vertical, non-door, non-movable vehicle-surface, along the passenger-side of the vehicle, well forward of the vehicle's rear-bumper, whose reflecting surface is generally facing the left side (driver's-side) of the vehicle, thus providing a left-looking alternative view of any nearby oncoming cross-traffic approaching from the left side and imminently passing behind the vehicle, a view which might otherwise be blocked by an adjacent obstruction parked alongside the driver's-side of vehicle 21, an embodiment being useful in instances where the driver is backing up from a parking space which lies to the left of the lane of traffic;

[0042] entire paragraph was previously stricken, without renumbering the other paragraphs.

[0042] another embodiment is with a back-up mirror (or pair of back-up mirrors, one left-looking and one right-looking) mounted in a position generally along the top edge of the rear window(s) of the passenger vehicle;

[0043] Replace with the following new paragraph:

[0043] another embodiment is for the mounting position of a back-up mirror to be on a side-window's inside surface ~~slightly aft of or even with a second seating row's seatback such as found on SUVs having narrow side pillars and/or non-movable side windows;~~

[0044] ~~most of the paragraph was previously stricken, without renumbering the other paragraphs; only four words should still remain:~~

[0044] ~~another embodiment is for the back-up mirror to be mounted by a method attached onto the inner surface of the rear window itself (near an edge of the rear window), but this embodiment partially obstructs an existing view through the rear windshield.~~ More variations are possible:

[0057 ABSTRACT] Strike words from the following sentence within ABSTRACT:

. . . mounted in a region behind the driver's seat, and positioned slightly aft of or even with a second seating row's seat back and whose reflective surface is generally facing a side of the vehicle (left-looking or right-looking). . . .

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